

SEP 3 0 2005

FCC - MAILROOM

September 29, 2005

Marlene H. Dortch Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 - 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Irene M. Flannery
Vice President – High Cost and Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

Re: Matanuska Communications, Inc., (formerly Matanuska-Kenai, Inc.)

dba MTA Wireless (MTAW)

SPIN: 143000432

Annual High Cost Loop Certification filing

Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Flannery:

Enclosed is Matanuska Communications Inc.'s (dba MTA Wireless) sworn statement **certifying** that it will use its **High-cost Loop** Universal Service support only for the purpose for which it is intended. This certification is being filed consistent with 47 CFR 54.314 (b) and (c). MTA Wireless is an eligible telecommunications carrier that is not subject to the state jurisdiction.

After receiving its initial ETC designation, Matanuska Kenai, Inc. dba MTA Wireless changed its name from Matanuska Kenai, Inc. to Matanuska Communications, Inc. Also enclosed is a copy of the State Commission order granting the change of name, and transferring ETC designation at the same time.

Please let us know if you need anything additional.

Carolyn Hanson, General Manager

No. of October repty 0

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
SEP 3 0 2005

In re:	)		
	)		
C. ICC. CC. C. CARTON	)		
Self Certification of MTA	)		
Wireless of its use of High	)		
Cost Loop funds	)	CC Docket 96-45	
	)		
	)		

#### AFFIDAVIT OF GREGORY BERBERICH

STATE OF ALASKA	)
	)ss
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT	)

Gregory Berberich, being first duly sworn, state as follows:

That I am a corporate officer of Matanuska Communications Inc. formerly Matanuska-Kenai, Inc. dba MTA Wireless (MTAW), and I am authorized to execute this affidavit on behalf of MTAW.

That MTAW is not regulated by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, and is required by 47 CFR 54.314 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules to self-certify as to its use of high-cost universal service support.

I certify that all High Cost Loop universal service support provided to MTAW will be used only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which this support is intended, pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act.

Affidavit of Gregory Berberich Page 1 of 2

That a copy of this affidavit is being delivered to the Secretary of the Federal Communications Commission and the Administrator of the Universal Service Administration Company.

DATED this  $29^{th}$  day of September, 2005.

Berberich, Corporate Officer

Matanuska Communications, Inc., dba MTA Wireless

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this  $\frac{29}{4}$  day of September,

2005.

Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 8/7/2007

W. Communication

SEP 3 0 2005

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## STATE OF ALASKA

THE REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

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Before Commissioners:

Kate Giard, Chairman Dave Harbour Mark K. Johnson Anthony A. Price James S. Strandberg

In the Matter of the Application for Transfer of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 440 to Operate as a Cellular Telephone Provider from Matanuska-Kenai, Inc. to MTA

Communications, Inc.

U-04-115

ORDER NO. 1

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#### ORDER RECOGNIZING AFFILIATE MERGER, AMENDING CERTIFICATE, ADDRESSING ISSUES AND CLOSING DOCKET

BY THE COMMISSION:

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# Summary

We acknowledge transfer of Certificate of Convenience and Public Necessity (Certificate) No. 440 from Matanuska-Kenai, Inc. d/b/a Cellular Connection (MTAW)<sup>1</sup> to MTA Communications, Inc. d/b/a MTA Wireless (MTAC) and we amend the Certificate accordingly. We direct MTAC to fulfill the eligible telecommunications carrier

<sup>1</sup>Certificate No. 440 is currently issued to Matanuska-Kenai, Inc. d/b/a Cellular Connection (MKI). MKI used the Cellular Connection name until 1998 when it started marketing cellular telecommunications services under the name of MTA Wireless. While this change was reflected on the state business license in November 1998, MKI did not file a name change with our predecessor, the Alaska Public Utilities Commission, or with us. We acknowledge that Matanuska-Kenai, Inc. d/b/a MTA Wireless (MTAW) is the entity merging with MTA Communications, Inc. Therefore, in this Order, we use MTAW as the acronym for the holder of Certificate No. 440.

U-04-115(1) - (01/21/05) Page 1 of 4

(907) 276-4533 Regulatory Commission of Alaska 701 West Eighth Avenue, Suite 300 Anchorage, Alaska 907) 276-6222;

obligations assigned to Matanuska-Kenai, Inc. d/b/a MTA Wireless in Order U-03-86(3).<sup>2</sup> We return Exhibit B to MTAW and close this Docket.

#### Background

MTAW and MTA Communications, Inc. filed a joint application on December 22, 2004, to transfer MTAW's Certificate to provide wireless service to MTAC. The application was accompanied by a petition for confidential treatment of MTAW's Continuing Property Records and 2004 Capital Plant Additions, filed as Exhibit B in support of the transfer application.

#### **Discussion**

The Certificate transfer is necessitated by the merger of MTAW into MTA Communications, Inc. The purpose of the affiliate merger is to benefit from increased efficiencies within the organization by collapsing one affiliate into another with Matanuska Telephone Association, Inc. still holding 100 percent of the controlling interest of the surviving affiliate. Upon completion of the merger, MTAW will become MTAC.<sup>3</sup>

MTAW applied for and received a Certificate in the early 1990s before passage of a federal law that substantially preempts state authority over wireless rates and services. Due to the federal law, we have not enforced our authority over certification of wireless carriers. We have allowed wireless carriers to implement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Order Approving Application for ETC Status, Requiring Filings, and Closing Docket, dated December 8, 2004. Docket U-03-86 is titled In the Matter of the Request by MATANUSKA-KENAI, INC., d/b/a MTA WIRELESS, for Designation as a Carrier Eligible to Receive Federal Universal Service Support Under Telecommunications Act of 1996.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Motion for Expedited Consideration of Matanuska-Kenai Inc.'s Application to Transfer CPCN #440 to MTA Communications, Inc. at 2, filed December 22, 2004.

changes in control without our approval.<sup>4</sup> Because the pending application involves the merger of two unregulated affiliates with no apparent material change in operations, we proceed consistent with our past enforcement policy and take no action to prevent the transfer. We acknowledge the transfer and amend Certificate No. 440 to reflect the change in structure.

#### Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Obligation

In Order U-03-86(3) we approved the application filed by MTAW for status as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) for purposes of receiving federal and state universal service funding in the areas served by Matanuska Telephone Association, Inc. We also ordered MTAW to file "as if it were a regulated carrier in response to our requests for information for the annual use-of-funds certifications to the Federal Communications Commission." Though the merger agreement addresses the liabilities, obligations and penalties of MTAW by stating that the surviving corporation shall be responsible, we wish to clearly state that this ETC obligation and status passes to the surviving entity, MTAC.

#### Request for Confidential Treatment

The applicants requested confidential treatment of certain information filed with their transfer application. We did not review or consider the information filed under seal<sup>7</sup> to reach a decision. We direct Commission Staff to return the documents filed under seal to MTAW. Because we did not consider the information that was filed under

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>See letter from Dave Harbour, Commission Chair, to K. Nielsen, Manager, AT&T Wireless, dated June 23, 2003.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Ordering Paragraph No. 2 of Order U-03-86(3), dated December 8, 2004.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Exhibit A, Agreement and Plan of Merger at 2, filed December 22, 2004.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Continuing Property Records and 2004 Capital Plant Additions that were filed on December 22, 2004 as Exhibit B in support of the transfer application.

seal and because the information is being returned to MTAW, the issue of confidential treatment is moot.

## Close Docket

No substantive or procedural matters remain in this proceeding and there are no costs under AS 42.05.651 and 3 AAC 48.157. Therefore, we close this Docket.

## **ORDER**

## THE COMMISSION FURTHER ORDERS:

- 1. The eligible telecommunications carrier status and obligations of Matanuska-Kenai Inc. d/b/a MTA Wireless are transferred to MTA Communications, Inc. d/b/a MTA Wireless.
  - 2. Docket U-04-115 is closed.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE at Anchorage, Alaska, this 21st day of January, 2005.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION (Commissioners Dave Harbour and Mark K. Johnson, not participating.)



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STATE OF ALASKA

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THE REGULATORY	<u>COMMISSION</u>	OF ALASKA

4 Before Commissioners: 5

Kate Giard, Chairman Dave Harbour Mark K. Johnson Anthony A. Price James S. Strandberg

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U-04-115

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TTY (907) 276-4533

907) 276-6222;

Regulatory Commission of Alaska 701 West Eighth Avenue, Suite 300 Anchorage, Alaska 99501

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CERTIFICATION OF MAILING

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_, Natasha L. Odom-Brown \_\_\_\_, certify as follows:

lam Administrative Clerk III in the offices of

the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, 701 West Eighth Avenue, Suite 300, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. On \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2005, I mailed

copies of

Order No. 1, entitled:

# ORDER RECOGNIZING AFFILIATE MERGER, AMENDING CERTIFICATE, ADDRESSING ISSUES AND CLOSING DOCKET (Issued January 21, 2005)

in the proceeding identified above to the persons indicated on the attached service list.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of January, 2005.

U-04-115(1) - (Certification of Mailing) Page 1 of 1

, Fed Ext address

Map

Directions

Floor Plan

Field Offices

Secretary Federal Communications Commission

> c/o Natek, Inc. 236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE

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Washington, DC 20002

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